THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER.

A STRANGE story of cannibalism comes from America. It is said that the waifs of the Greely Expedition lived for some time by eating the flesh of their comrades whom they shot. One of the survivors, while in the last stage of delirium, often cried out "Don't shoot me and eat me up, as you did Henry," and this gave the clue; and the subsequent examination of a corpse showed signs of having had its flesh cut out. For the honor of humanity, we hope, further enquiry will prove the story to be the result of a delirium and nothing more.

AN ENGLISH PAPER says that the Italian Government has closed the Brindisi route by the imposition of a strict quarantine. The step taken by the Italian Government will, if the announcement be true, put the passengers to and from the East to considerable inconvenience.

REUTER INFORMS us that the New Oriental Bank will begin to make allotment of shares applied for, and commence revival of business from September 1.

WE ARE SORRY to learn that the health of the Maharajah of Kashmir is again indifferent. He is now contemplating some changes in the officials at Srinuggur to the dissatisfaction of those concerned. It would be well, if His Highness would keep himself aloof from business just now.

THE ENGLISHMAN'S CORRESPONDENT, in commenting upon the refusal of Mr. Harrison to sit upon the Section 28 Commission says: "If Mr. Harrison feels piqued at the idea of joining a Commission of which an officer slightly his junior must, by the force of circumstances, be the nominal head, we can only say that from the public he must expect no sympathy in such petty jealousies when great public interests are at stake."

AGAIN regarding the appointment of Mr. Cotton our contemporary seems to be very uneasy. He has racked his brains to show that Mr. Cotton's appointment is *ultra vires*. Yes, yes, we understand him fully, because Mr. Cotton is none of the *paterfamilias* of the celebrated Cunningham—and—Payne Memorial and would be the likely person to freely give out the conclusions he might come to, on the examination of facts and figures which would be placed before the Commission. He must be shut out on some plea or other. The objection raised by the *Englishman* to Mr. Cotton's appointment justifies too truly the proverb *sic itur ad astra*.

THE MISSION of Lord Northbrook to Egypt is suspected both at home and abroad as a policy of Government to tide over events and 'to see which way the wind blows in the Soudan; and about his selection, the London correspondent of the *Pioneer* says: "I know not what was thought of the noble Earl's services by his colleagues in India, but in this country the impression prevails that he is unwilling, if competent, to act without the assistance of a coterie of advisers." Indeed, there are those who go so far as to say that the force of character, independence of judgment, and statesman-like acumen necessary to lift Egypt out of her present political and administrative *impasse* will be looked for in vain in the House of Baring. We hope, Lord Northbrook will survive this cutting satire.

REGARDING MR. Atkin's agitation against Government non-interference with the rules regarding the award of the Gilchrist scholarships, the *Pioneer* justly remarks: "The Government of India have no power in the matter, and the fanciful story told by Mr. Atkins, at a public meeting in Calcutta, about Government pushing the Europeans to miscegenation is so much gapeseed: it rests simply on a perverted view of one of the conditions laid down by an absolute independent Trust at home, for a scholarship founded by private benevolence. How it is that the Eurasian Association should be interested, if not concerned, in misleading public opinion by an agitation on the subject, with the letter to which we have referred in its possession, is for its Managers, for their credit's sake, to explain." The *Pioneer* can be just when it chooses to be so.

TUESDAY, 2ND SEPTEMBER.

SAYS THE DECCAN *Times*:—Last Wednesday (20th instant) a committee, with Colonel Ludlow as its president, assembled in Nawab Salar Jung's palace, to consider the best means to be adopted for the disposal of that turbulent element in the Hyderabad State, the Rohillas. We hope, the Committee will devise some means to effectually curb their lawlessness and mischievous spirit without doing any positive injustice to them. Every man has a right to live wherever he likes, and this cardinal element of personal liberty should never be touched. Apart from this, every man is bound to live so as not to be a nuisance to his neighbour, and the law should always intervene to enforce this condition.

THE STATE of things in Burmah seems approaching a crisis. The price of rice is exorbitantly high there. The people are openly seeking outside intervention. The King is offering three per cent. per month for money loans, but without success. All this, however, may be mere rumour. Newspaper reports of the doings of the lord of the white elephant are but too often misleading.

LORD MAYO, whose father, the Viceroy of India, once represented the borough, has just been chosen as the Conservative candidate for Cockermouth.

AT A RECENT MEETING of the American Association of Civil Engineers, Mr. Benjamin Rhodes, described what had been done towards the utilisation of Niagara for electrical purposes. He said:—"The power of Niagara can be estimated very approximately. The full average flow of the river according to many careful measurements is 275,000 cubic feet per second. The fall in the river through the rapids immediately above the fall is 65 feet. The height of the falls is 165 feet, making a total of 230 feet; thus we have for the whole power 7,000,000 horse-power. To utilise this amount of power by water-wheels, generate electrical currents, and transmit them to various cities within 500 miles, would necessitate a plant representing at least, 5,000,000,000, dols. Such figures as these give some idea of the enormous amount of power here in reserve." He states that on the Canadian side the entire use of the falls is represented by a small over-shot wheel, which propels a pump, furnishing a meagre supply of water to the adjoining village. On the American side there are five separate raceways developing in all 800 to 1,000 horse-power. After describing the hydraulic canal, the greatest power now in use at Niagara, he says:—"Further developments of power at Niagara may be made at little expense. The hydraulic canal can be deepened and widened, and wheels may be set under greater heads, the total amount thus made available here being equal to the necessities of many years. It may safely be said that the use of Niagara has just begun. Low water is unknown; troubles from ice are slight: hours of use are not limited to eight or ten, but twenty-four hours in the day and 365 days in the year, and unlimited power is ready, making this the most reliable, as it is the grandest, water-power in the world."

MR. JOHN WALLACE, late of the Madras Civil Service, left Madras on August 26th for London, with the intention, the *Hindu* says, "of commencing his criminal prosecution against the Madras Government in the Court of Queen's Bench, and of instituting a civil suit for damages for wrongful dismissal and breach of covenant against the Secretary of State. We hear, however, that negotiations have been going on with respect to the latter, which may result in a compromise, should Mr. Wallace be willing to accept a pension proportionate to the length of his service, namely, the sum of £850 per annum. Mr. Wallace was entered at the Inner Temple some years ago, and expects to be called to the Bar in eighteen months' time when he will return to practise in Madras." An Indian under similar circumstances would have been packed off most unceremoniously to his cot, to ruminate over his disservice.

THE MEDICAL officers of the Indian Service are subscribing to present a testimonial to Mr. Gibson, M. P., who has so ably pleaded their cause in the House of Commons. A substantial testimonial or what?

THE DUKE and Duchess of Connaught, accompanied by Major and Mrs. Stevenson, and Surgeon Major Scott, will proceed to Cashmere at the end of September. They will arrive at Murree on October 1st, and will be for two days the guests of the Royal Irish Fusiliers. We wish this trip will prove pleasant to their Royal Highnesses. No one should retire from India without a sojourn in this paradise of Peris.

AFZUL KHAN, the well-known horse-dealer, is about to start a small stud-farm for horse and mule breeding, provided he is able to obtain a grant of land suitable for his purpose. He is highly recommended by the General Superintendent of Horse-breeding, and other authorities; and as he has both capital and a knowledge of the business, he seems a most likely man to succeed. He has applied for land in the Lahore district.

ANOTHER DEMAGOGUE, on the person of a Mr. Duffill, has appeared on the scene, engaging himself in a crusade against the natives. He, like his friend Mr. Atkins, is lecturing in forcible language on the woes of Europeans in this country, fifty years hence. His speech is embellished with frequent allusions, more or less apposite, to incidents in classical history, and he likened the Government to Diogenes with his lantern and said, they had searched everywhere for an honest man, and when they came to the Bengali Babu, they put their hand on him and exclaimed, "This is just the man we want." And yea, his oratory was effective and enlisted 75 of those present to the ranks of the Defence Association. Such crusaders with small trains ought to know that by their declamations they are wounding their feet with their own axe.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER.

LORD NORTHBROOK, in course of a speech at Hull, spoke as follows of our present Governor-General:—"The present Governor-General was a Yorkshire man, and the Lord High Steward of Hull, and therefore, they took some interest in his career. Of all men he ever met in the course of his political life, there was no man who ever went about the discharge of his duties in a more straightforward manner than Lord Ripon." His Lordship is quite right.

THE PRESIDENT of the "Hindu Virgin Widow Remarriage Association of Madras" has persuaded "Uttardi Swami" to hold a "conference in the regular constitutional manner at Mattum, to discuss and decide whether the remarriage of virgin widows is allowed by the shastras or not." It appears that light is gradually pervading the so-called benighted Presidency, and we are glad to see that it is interesting itself in social questions of an important nature. We hope the Swami will heap upon himself the blessings of the poor widows by declaring for them. Did our southern friends take the hint from Mr. Malabari?

THE OBJECT of the visit of their Excellencies the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief to Cashmere, the *Statesman's* Sinuggur correspondent has laid bare. He says:—"There is, I believe, no doubt that the Government of India have determined to open a Government Treasury in Srinuggur, and have also proposed that the English Post-master, who is here only in the six summer months, should remain here throughout the year. The reason for having a Government Treasury here is ostensibly, for the convenience of the many visitors during the summer, but the more substantial reason may be that the Government of India is desirous of having some British troops here, perhaps on the frontiers of Cashmere, and for that purpose some arrangements must be made for the pay of these troops. The rumour that a contingent of troops, is to be placed here, and which was current a few months ago, is probably correct."

WE HEAR that Mr. Grant-Duff has taken several heads of departments to task for the annually increasing cost to the State of stationery and printing in the Presidency. His Excellency is reported to have remarked, in a circular memorandum addressed to the heads of all departments, as follows:—"There can be little doubt that much wasteful extravagance prevails in many quarters. Year by year the cost under this head and printing is mounting up. I believe that if the heads of every office were to carefully and personally look into this matter, great saving would result." We commend the above to the notice of our Government.

EARL GRANVILLE is about to erect a very interesting monument at Ebb's Fleet, near Pegwell Bay, in commemoration of the landing of St. Augustine. The memorial will consist of a reproduction of the famous Saxon crosses at Sandbach, near Crewe, and will be twelve feet in height. The west front will represent the landing of St. Augustine, and on the encircled crosses are to be the emblems of the Evangelists. On the panelled shaft below will be represented the Annunciator, the Virgin and Child, the Crucifixion, and the Transfiguration. On the north side are statues of the Twelve Apostles, and on the south and east sides a series of fourteen figures of early Christian martyrs with their emblems.

AN interesting demonstration was given in Albert Hall, South Kensington, on July 24, by the young lady pupils of Miss A. Chreiman, of exercises adapted for the physical education of girls: Earl Fortescue in the chair. Some thirty-five young ladies, apparently from eight to sixteen years of age, performed the exercises; the programme comprising vocal marching, finger and wrist play; trunk and limbs and respiratory gymnastics, exercises with light dumb bells, balls, bar-bells and clubs. Throughout the exercises time was kept to dance and other music on the piano, the young ladies being attired in short blue serge dresses, well adapted to allow of the performance of the feats. Undeniably the physical training they had undergone, had greatly improved their physique and carriage. The marches with which the demonstrations closed, abundantly tested their staying powers, only a few of the younger girls falling out, notwithstanding the rapidity of the evolutions, some of which were performed at almost racing speed round the arena. The Duke of Buckingham arrived before the close of the proceedings, and paid a very well deserved tribute to the excellence of the pupils' training.

THE FOLLOWING, which we take from a contemporary, will interest our readers. A Naval surveying party, near one of the mouths of the Mississipi, once saw a singular sight. It was a huge raft of trees and timber, covered with a great variety of animals and reptiles, floating into the Gulf of Mexico. This raft had been formed during a heavy flood, which swept the whole lower Mississipi country and the living creatures had taken refuge upon it from the all-pervading waters. There were snakes, rats, dogs, cats, deer, hens, alligators, goats &c. Snakes, especially copperheads, were numerous. This enforced migration of such a variety of creatures, may serve as a clue to the way in which animals have been heretofore distributed over the earth. Who can say how many such rafts have traversed the seas during former centuries, carrying all manner of animals to islands and continents far from the land of their origin? It is thus that the peculiar flora as well as the fauna of one continent are scattered over other parts of the world.

THURSDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

REPORT of a desperate affray between the Junaghar Durbar and some Mekranis regarding the possession of a village called Inaj has reached the Bombay papers. About a month and half ago, the Mekranis assumed an independent attitude and refused to admit the Junaghar Police into the village to enquire into some alleged offences, and collecting a body of armed men, gave out that they would fight for their rights. The Kattiwar Agency deeming it necessary to adopt coercive measures sent out a force consisting of 60 sowars and 150 police-men and 2 guns. The Assistant Political agent went to Verawal on the 18th. and endeavoured to induce the Mekranis to surrender their arms On their refusing to do so, the forces moved out to Inaj on the 19th. but failed to induce the villagers to submit. When the Police were within range, the Mekranis fired, and the firing on both sides became general. It took about four hours for the Police to get a footing in the village when began a course of house to house fighting. The houses being mostly loop-holed offered shelter to the villagers who made a most stubborn resistance. Six Mekranis out of 19 in the village were killed, 3 were wounded and captured, and 2 surrendered, while 6 or 7 escaped. The Durbar losses were more severe, seven being killed and 15 wounded. The lesson taught by the recent affairs at Bikanir should not be wasted upon the authorities. It is really a source of apprehension to the state and to the people that the relation between the Durbar and its subjects should continue to be so unsatisfactory.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Englishman* calls attention to the rude and peremptory manner in which the policeman on duty hustles off inoffensive and decently clad natives who venture to sit on the benches near the bandstand in the Eden Garden. The ostensible objection against their presence is that they are dressed in "a light and airy fashion." We fail to see the cogency of the argument that natives are to be excluded from certain portions of the gardens because, forsooth, they are dressed in what "in his own native society *is* considered full dress." So long as they are decently clad and well-behaved, we know no law which enjoins their exclusion, partial or total, and it would not be an infringement of the law if any one were to refuse to comply with the police man's *illegal* orders The attempt to exclude the natives from the garden is not a new one; it was attempted three or four times before, but then they were made before the days of the Ilbert Bill agitation. Once the plan was to charge a fee, but Sir George Campbell put his feet on it, and it had to be abandoned. The garden is maintained entirely at the cost of the natives who gave up the strand for the health and recreation of the public. But the word "public was not defined and it may not perhaps include the natives.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the prospectus of the Simla Reading Room and Student's Union: The projectors propose to get up "a library consisting mainly of works most calculated to supplement the education our youngmen generally receive in the Colleges and schools. They also propose to keep all the current newspapers, journals and periodicals for regular and casual readers." Institutions like these, if properly conducted, can do immense good in a noiseless way, and judging from the list of influential gentlemen who are said to take an especial interest in it, we make no doubt that it will be properly conducted. The undertaking deserves public support and has our hearty sympathy.

"THE RAST GOFTAR" an advanced Gujrati Journal of Bombay, complains of the small number of natives employed as engine-drivers on the Bombay Baroda and Central India Railway, inspite of the Government Resolution encouraging their employment. They are not permitted to work the mail trains, but are given charge only of local or goods trains. A most invidious distinction is made between them and their European fellow-drivers regarding wages, Bhatta, overtime allowances for extra work and leave rules. The experiment of employing natives as drivers on the Bengal State-railways has been pronounced to be an unqualified success, and in the Bombay lines the case does not seem to be otherwise In the face of this and of the Government Resolution which distinctly encourages the employment of natives whenever they are found competent, it is difficult to understand the action of the B. B. & C. I. Railway and the G I. P. Railway and other authorities.

THE STORY of Phillip II's despatch of a cargo of missals to the Phillipines for the use of the converts as recorded by Motley, has at last proved true by a lucky discovery. The Demon of the South had sent out a few galleons full of those missals both as presents to the native converts and as a trade speculation, and one of the galleons is said to have been driven ashore near Johore and plundered by the natives. It is one of those missals which is now reported to have been discovered in a house at Malacca. The discovery of the curio will afford the student of history an opportunity of speculating on the probable date of the expedition and an apple of discord to fight their wordy battles over.

FRIDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER.

THE MENGOON PRINCE whose escape from Chundernagore smacked of the romantic, has again escaped this time from Pondichery, and succeeded in landing at Siam. He is said to have taken with him an Armenian Engineer, Mr. Manuk, and one Babu Nobokumar Mukerji, a Clerk. Where there is a will there's a way.

THE NATIVE OPINION of Bombay, in speaking of the Titles of Rajah Sourindra Mohun Tagore, thus adverts to the family of the Rajah:

The family of the Tagores to which the Rajah Sourindo Mohun Tagor belongs, descends from Bhattanarayan, the first of the five Brahmans whom Adisura, King of Bengal, had invited to leave Kanoj, and to come to his kingdom in the year 1072. Halayudha, the 12th descendant from Bhattanaryan was the first minister of the King. Gopi Mohun, the 19th of the series distinguished himself by his patronage of the fine arts, of science and of religion, as well as by his benevolence, philanthropy, and liberality.

He allotted a large sum of money to the building of the Hindu college of which he was rector. Besides his own language he knew Sanskrict, Persian, Urdu, English, French and Portuguese. Of his six children, the two last, Hara kumar and Prasanno Kumar were the most distinguished. Hara Kumar the father of Jotendro Mohun and of Sourindro Mohun, was distinguished by his aimable character, by the simplicity of his manners, by his irreproachable life, and by his vast acquirements in Sanskrit. His intelligent taste for Sanscrit induced him to collect nearly six thousand Sanscrit manuscripts. He administered his own estate with great ability, and left to his two sons a principality with 300,000 inhabitants. He greatly loved jewels and music; and himself performed very well on the *setar*. The mother of Jotendro Mohun and of Sourindro Mohun composed some books of moral instruction for the people. She also liked pearls greatly, and knew them better than any jeweller. Prasanno Kumar, the brother of Hara Kumar was very fond of public life and politics. He was the first Hindu who entered the Legislative Council of the Viceroy. He was also an author, and composed or translated several treatises on Indian law. He was a very distinguished lawyer, and left by his last will, when he died Rs. 300,000 to the University of Calcutta for the creation of a chair of jurisprudence.

The brother of Sourindro, the Maharaja Sir Jotendra, honorary member of the Legislative Council, has now retired from public life; he is the chief noble of the nobles of Bengal, and a great protector of arts and of literature.

LADY MARGARET HERSCHEL, widow of Sir John Frederick W. Herschel, the astronomer and philosopher, died on Aug 3, at Hawkhurst, Kent. She was the daughter of the Rev. Alexander Stewart, D. D., younger son of Mr. Duncan Stewart, of Strathgarry Perthshire, and married in 1829, Mr. John Herschel, who, on the Queen's coronation in 1838, had the baronetcy conferred on him as the representative of science. Lady Herschel had as her issue three sons and nine daughters. Of the latter, her eldest daughter, Caroline is wife of General the Hon. Sir Alexander Gordon, M. P., and Amelia, her fifth daughter, is married to Sir Thomas F. Wade. K. C. B.

THE ELECTRIC light is evidently destined to play a considerable part in the warfare of the future. If it is properly employed by an army in camp or bivouac, it ought to make night attacks and surprises impossible. A storming party might as safely attack a town at noonday as at midnight under the glare of a dozen such lights. In naval battles also it is to be largely used, and the mast-head electric light is to be relied upon as one of the great defences of an ironclad against torpedo boats At Aldershot experiments have been tried for a more benevolent purpose. Moveable electric light wagons will be used to illuminate at nightfall the area on which a battle has been fought during the day, so as to reveal the wounded men who lie there, to the searchers of the bearer company and the ambulance corps. The trial operations were successful enough to encourage further experiments.

A REMARKABLE display of vigour has lately been made by the Divan at Constantinople, which is the subject of much gossip and conjecture at all the Embassies. The British Foreign Office is closely watching this new development of energy, and diplomatists are naturally inclined to attach some weight to aggresssive symptoms abroad—like the demand for the closing of the Post-offices, the concentration of troops in Arabia, and the Note to the Powers on the subject of Egypt—when they are accompanied by caution and the contraction of responsibilities at home. The latter phase of Turkey's present policy has been illustrated by the concessions in Crete, the amicable negotiations with Bulgaria, and the renewed promises to find funds for the Russian indemnity. A Vienna correspondent states that this activity of the Porte is due to the personal initiative of the Sultan, who is convinced that the maintenance of his prestige among the Mohammedans of Africa and Arabia is indispensable to the safety of his dominions. In the Austrian capital it is believed that the attitude of Turkey is more menacing to-day than it has been since the peace with Russia. This important fact, in a measure, justifies our remarks in last week's issue.

SATURDAY, 6TH SEPTEMBER.

THE INDIAN SPECTATOR is generally exceedingly happy and felicitous in the choice of his headings. They are so pat, so pointed, so thoroughly expressive of the character of the matter they label. Take for instance the "Delirium of Despair," of his last issue, and the picture of Ganesa with the elephantine head which he draws to stand for our brother of the *Indian Mirror* with the delectable "*Shree Ganeshayanama*" added. The idea of Lord Ripon dancing to the tune of *Hilmil chali pania* is even better. We could almost wish the delirium should last awhile so that we may have many such titbits of literary confectionary; but we sincerely hope and trust it will not run on to any thing more grave, or degenerate into anything hopelessly incurable. The writer kindly sympathises for us, when he says "the sufferings (of the native writers of Bengal) appear to me at times to have affected the victims mentally," and we should be the last to let our Parsi brother share our fate. It appears that he had been lately visiting Simla, and caught the delirium there—a curious case of cold producing a disease which is usually attributed to heat. But there is a compensation. He has brought away four *chittees* from some of the gods of the Himalayas, which, after being duly gazetted in the Bombay dailies, have been reprinted in the columns of the *Indian Spectator*, only "for permanent record," the daily sheets not being so permanent. When we next visit Bombay, we hope to see them duly framed, glazed, and hung in the drawing room of our friend. In the mean

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time we wish our young brother will drop the bad habit of prying into our mental condition. Some of the Anglo Indian papers do that with a vengeance and we need no more ! The natives have enough to do in other ways. Our contemporary would do well to remember the hackneyed but not the less truthful maxim—*Union is strength.*

BY THE WAY, one of the aforesaid chittees, that from Sir Aucland Colvin, is a scathing criticism on the Native Press, and characteristically ends with the remark, "I myself despair of any native social reform until the natives abandon their self-imposed task of reforming me and my countrymen. I fear that this task is far too congenial to them to allow us to hope that it will be lightly abandoned; so that you, and I, and the widow, and the five-year old bride must possess (*sic*) ourselves in patience, until a humbler and truer conception of its needs and duties at length breaks in upon the native mind and on those whose duty it is to instruct it." Is this the microbe or vibrio or bacilus which has produced the delirium ? These be thy gods, oh Israel !

IT IS beginning to be believed, in well informed quarters, that a compromise will be arranged with regard to the Franchise Bill before Parliament reassembles in the autumn. Mr. Gladstone is understood to be very unwilling to press matters to extremities, now that the agitation has been given a revolutionary character by the Radicals. Extremes were never the policy of the Liberals.

WE HAVE received a letter from four students of the Presidency College, admitting that Mr. MacDonnell's tiffin was stolen, but denying that the chops were purloined by any of the students. We gladly accept this disclaimer, and are disposed to believe that some ill-mannered irreverent cat did the mischief. We refrain from publishing the names of the protestants for their good. Have they, as Hindus, never heard of the story of "Who is there in the temple ? I have not eaten the plantain ?"

THE NEW London Civil List contains several new names on whom Her Majesty has been pleased to confer pensions for either literary excellence or military prowess. Such awards always afford an incentive to good work. It were well, if the Indian Government were empowered to acknowledge non-official merit in such a substantial way.

DURING the week ending 30th August last there were 171 deaths in the town, of which 2 were from cholera, 1 from small-pox, 62 from fever and the rest from other causes.

WE BEG to acknowledge with thanks the following publications :—1. The Illustrated Naval and Military Magazine. 2. Journal of the East Indian Association for June 1884. 3. Trade and Navigation accounts of British India for July 1884. 4. Report on the Horticultural Gardens, Lucknow for 1883-84. 5. The Hahnemann for August 1884. 6. Report on the Legal affairs of the Bengal Government for 1883-84. 7. The Voice of India Vol. II, for August 1884.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, September 2.—Mr. Gladstone, in a speech at Edinburgh yesterday, made an exhaustive defence of the foreign policy of his Government, and particularly pointed out its satisfactory result as regards Afghanistan. Mr. Gladstone, in the course of his speech, wished Germany God-speed in colonizing project.

The *Times* publishes a telegram to-day from Pekin stating that placards have been posted throughout the city proclaiming war with France. In another speech at Edinburgh yesterday, previous to the one already recorded, Mr. Gladstone devoted himself to the Franchise Bill which he discussed in a moderate tone, and said he hoped that the Lords would eventually yield.

3.—The British Government are engaging large numbers of Canadian boatmen and West African Kroomen to steer the steamers over the Nile rapids. It is officially announced that the expedition has arrived at Wady Halfa.

4.—Sir Peter Lumsden travels to Sarakhs through Persia.

5.—Lord Northbrook has had a cordial interview with Count Kalnoky.

Hongkong, September 1.—Japan claims the sovereignty of the Loochoo Islands from China, and rumours are current that China has declared war in consequence.

Cairo, September 1.—The British officers serving in the Egyptian army are expressing great dissatisfaction at the Egyptian troops being excluded from taking part in the Nile expedition.

Vienna, September 3.—The *Politischoe Correspondent* announced that Mr. Grant Duff would succeed Lord Ampthill as Ambassador at Berlin, and not Vienna, as erroneously stated. The latest news from the Continent states that cholera has broken out at Allicante in Spain, and that the mortality from Cholera at Naples is causing great alarm. Sir Peter Lumsden started for Odessa yesterday.

Aden, September 3.—The *Gwalior* with the outward English mails of the 22nd instant, left here for Bombay at five o'clock last evening, and the *Siam* for Colombo and Calcutta at ten o'clock.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1884.

THE INDIAN BUDGET IN PARLIAMENT.

MR. CROSS'S SPEECH.

I.

THE Indian Budget was presented to the House of Commons on the evening of the 8th ultimo. The Under-Secretary's statement of the financial transactions and position of the Government of India was, as usual, made to an empty House during the closing hours of the Session. It is quite useless to regret that the Indian Budget should, year after year, be laid before Parliament at a date at which it is scarcely possible that due attention should be given to it. Each year brings with it fresh protests and promises of improvement, but all to no purpose. In this matter there is not the slightest difference between the Conservatives and the Liberals. The Indian Secretary's financial statement as a rule, is made at the fag-end of the Session, when it is hopeless to interest the House of Commons in it. It is hard enough at any time to induce any portion of the House to give due attention to Indian finance; but during the weary hours of an expiring session the task is utterly impossible. Mr. Cross, in concluding his Budget speech under notice, expressed a hope that next year the House might be able to enter upon the consideration of the many important questions arising in an Indian debate, at such a period of the Session as would enable it to discuss them with credit to itself and advantage to the country. We must say plainly that we are not sanguine that this hope will be realized. In the middle of the Session of 1883, Mr. Alderman Fowler brought forward a motion to the effect that the Indian Budget should be presented to the House of Commons at an earlier date than usual. This motion was accepted by the Ministry, but it failed to bring about any improvement. Last year the Indian financial statement was made on the last Wednesday of the Session; and the case is much the same this year also. Mr. Cross will, therefore, excuse us if we do not place any reliance on the hope he expressed in the concluding sentence of his speech.

But though we may commiserate the fate of Mr. Cross who had to introduce the Indian Budget during the closing hours of the Session, we must admit that he gave a lucid exposition of the financial transactions and position of the Government of India. The Under-Secretary, as in dutybound, gave the figures for the last three years; but we will not tire the patience of the reader with mere dry figures. Mr. Cross repeated the opinion which he had expressed last year to the effect that India is very lightly taxed. He said that the burden of taxation which India had to bear was comprised under eight heads, *viz.*, Land Tax, Salt, Stamps, Excise, Provincial Rates, Customs, Assessed Taxes and Registration. The items, he pointed out, are estimated, for the year ending 31st March next, at 40½ crores of rupees in round numbers. From this sum Mr. Cross would deduct 22 crores which is the amount of land revenue and put down the real taxation of India at 18½ crores. This sum divided over the 200 millions of Her Majesty's subjects in British India, he tells us, is not more than 14 annas 9 pies per head. It is superfluous to say that Mr. Cross thinks that the Opium revenue like the land tax should not be taken into account in determining the incidence of taxation in India. We need hardly tell the reader that the theory that the land revenue and the Opium revenue of India do not represent taxation proper was first propounded by the late Mr. James Wilson in order to justify the imposition of an income-tax upon the people of India. That this theory is utterly fallacious has been conclusively shown by Mr. H. E. Sullivan, now a Member of the Executive Council of Madras, in his able Minute of dissent appended to the second part of the Report of the Famine Commission. We noticed this Minute at length in these columns at the time of its publication. We commend it to the careful consideration of Mr. Cross and those who think with him that the land revenue and the Opium revenue of India do not represent taxation proper. When Mr. Cross asserts that India is lightly taxed, he merely displays his ignorance of the actual condition of its teeming millions. There can be no comparison in the matter of taxation between rich England and poor India. Judged by the English standard, the taxation of India would doubtless seem to be very light. A few shillings a year may be a trifle to an English peasant or even an agricultural labourer, but it is a vast sum to the forty millions of people, who, according to Dr. W.W. Hunter, go through life in a state of chronic starvation. The whole earnings of the population of India, it has been estimated, amount to between 200 and 300 crores; whereas those of the people of England have been put down at 900 crores. England, in proportion to her population, is thus 56 times as rich as India. It is, therefore, utterly absurd to compare the incidence of taxation in England with that in India. In commenting on the details of the accounts, Mr. Cross referred to the working of the Forest Department. He spoke of the benefits which the Department has been conferring on India. We cannot, however, shut our eyes to the fact that the working of the Forest Department inflicts great hardship and oppression upon the people. Mr. Cross, it is only fair to say, confessed that in some instances customary rights had been interfered with." "But," he contended," restriction is necessary in the public interest, because the exercise of these rights, without any regulation, simply leads to certain destruction of the forests, and has a very serious effect upon the rainfall. What is aimed in the Indian Forest Acts is to forbid altogether the exercise of those practices which are incompatible with the existence of the forests." Well, the prohibition of these practices has deprived thousands of our countrymen of the right of grazing, fire-wood cutting, and collecting certain articles of forest produce which they had enjoyed from time immemorial.

Mr Cross said a good deal regarding the railway policy of the Indian Government. We are glad to notice that he declared in plain terms that there can be no comparison between India and America in the matter of railway extension. This is exactly the view which we expressed in these columns in a recent issue. Mr. Cross observed : "The great increase of railways in America has been quoted as an example worthy of emulation by the Indian Government, by those who seem entirely to lose sight of the fact that, whereas in America the railways are made by private enterprise, the risk of profit or loss remaining with the proprietors, in India, with a very small exception, the railways are made by the State, the possible loss having to be made good out of taxation which must be paid by the people. In America, if a railway company cannot meet its obligations, the proprietors suffer, but the public may gain by cheap carriage. In India, though a railway may not, and sometimes does not, earn its dividend, the proprietors enjoy their guaranteed interest and the tax-payer suffers the loss." Private capitalists can afford to speculate, but the State cannot, since the risk is the risk of the whole country, not of the people who contribute voluntarily to a venture, but of the tax-payers who contribute involuntarily, who are not consulted, but who nevertheless have to find the interest, whether returns to the investment are good or bad. Mr. Cross, as might be expected, supported the recommendations made by the Indian Railway Committee of which he was a member. As we discussed the report of the Committee in a recent issue, we need not say any thing on the subject here. Mr. Cross laid stress on the condition laid down by the Committee that railway extension shall not subject the people of India to increased taxation. The fulfilment of this condition, as we showed in discussing the report of the Railway Committee, is impossible. It looks excellent on paper, but it has no practical value. As regards the question of borrowing in England or India, the Under-Secretary remarked : "If Indian capital is all being used at better rates of interest than those at which the Government can borrow in

England, it is well to borrow here and employ the capital in India on the one condition that it shall be fully reproductive. I must say that it does seem a very extraordinary thing that capital should not be forthcoming in India, when that country has absorbed more than £220,000,000 worth of silver and £110,000,000 worth of gold in the last 30 years. Whether there be great hoards or not, we do not seem to have much chance of attracting them." Yes, that is the reason why the Stock Note Scheme and the policy of raising local loans for the construction of Financial railways have so completely failed. The small capital which exists in the country can not be attracted by 4 per cent. when the ordinary rate of interest on small loans is half anna per rupee per mensem or 37½ per cent. per annum.

In conclusion, Mr. Cross had a fling at Mr Seymour Keay's famous articles on the Spoliation of India in the *Nineteenth Century*. The Under-Secretary wanted to make out that Mr. Keay's figures regarding the proportion of the value of crop claimed by the State as land tax and the cost of cultivation are all wrong. Admitting for the sake of argument, that this is really the case Mr. Cross will find it impossible to get over the fact, that even high authorities like Sir Louis Mallet and the late Sir Bartle Frere who cannot be classed as pessimists, have recorded their deliberate opinion that in many cases lands have been assessed which yield no rent at all and barely pay the cost of cultivation. Lastly, Mr. Cross touched lightly upon the Frontier Railways, the Opium Revenue and the Salt-tax. He observed:—

> I do not wish in a financial statement to enter upon political questions; but there is no doubt that frontier arrangements may affect, in some degree, our financial calculations. How far we may have to improve the communications with and between our outposts we do not know: but it is better that the necessary steps should be taken now, than that we should be subject to sudden alarms, and possibly enormous expenditure under the influence of panic at some future time.
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> I observe that my hon. friend, the member for Durham intends to propose a resolution which threatens one of our principal sources of revenue. I only hope that he may be able to show that our finances are in a condition to bear the loss which his philanthropic proposals on behalf of the Chinese would entail upon India.
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> Some of my friends, too, are anxious to abolish the salt tax, and, between the two proposals, we are in danger of losing some £13,000,000 a year. I am anxious to know how this deficiency is to be met, but at the same time, I am bound to say that the financier who shall be able to abolish this tax, or even to carry further the reductions of it commenced three years ago, will confer on the people of India almost as great a boon as the repeal of the Corn Laws gave the people of England.
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> I should like also to have said a few words on the barbarous manner in which the artistic productions of India are treated under our Customs laws; but I am afraid that I should find myself in conflict with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary to the Treasury; not that they have any love for the present laws, but they feel it to be their bounden duty to defend them.

Now that Russia is at the gate of India, no one can say what complications may not arise beyond the frontier in a day. It is for this reason that we have strongly recommended the Government of India to be cautious in spending borrowed money upon so-called productive public works, which in many instances prove unproductive. Mr. Cross's views on the Opium question are sound; but the same cannot be said regarding the opinion expressed on the salt tax. The Under-Secretary for India apparently agrees with those sentimental philanthropists who think that the salt tax is a grievous burden upon the people of India. So far is this from being the case, that even the poorest classes do not feel the pressure of the tax. Mr. Cross would unquestionably render a great service to India if he could procure the abolition of the English duties on Indian silver work; but we are not sanguine as to the success of his efforts in this direction. As we have already exceeded the limits assigned to a single article, we will notice in our next the discussion which followed Mr. Cross's speech.

MOCKERY OF JUSTICE.

THE complete unanimity with which the whole of the Native press has condemned the grave miscarriage of justice in the now notorious Webb case leaves nothing more to be said, so far at least as newspaper writing is concerned. But the chronic state of irritation to which such a gross failure of justice naturally reduces public opinion, is materially enhanced by the studied silence of the Anglo-Indian Press. While the exponents of the opinions and wishes of the European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association and similar cognate bodies are very loud in their talk of prosecuting the perjured witnesses who swore against innocent Francis, they have absolutely not said a word to express their disapprobation of actions which can only sully the fair name of England. There cannot be the shadow of a doubt that the right-thinking portion of the Anglo-Indian community feel quite as strongly about the case as any native is capable of doing, and the very best thing that they could have done to conciliate their native fellow subjects, if, indeed, they at all cared to do so, was to express their thorough disapprobation of Webb's conduct. Studied silence like what the Anglo-Indian Press has been guilty of, on this occasion, is calculated to irritate the people more effectually than the Anglo-Indian leaders of public opinion think or pretend to think. It is indeed a relief in the midst of this ominous silence to see the *Statesman* raise his voice against this most iniquitous proceeding; and we are glad to find that, though somewhat late in the field, our contemporary has taken up the cudgel in his usual style. The failure of the Anglo-Indian community to express their abhorence at the brutal conduct of Webb will naturally suggest a comparison with the clamour they raised—and very rightly, we have no hesitation in admitting—when a similar offence was attempted to be committed, sometime ago, by a low class native on a respectable European lady, and the comparison, we submit, is not likely to raise the Europeans very much in the estimation of their native fellow subjects.

Unfortunately enough, the cases in which Europeans commit offences against natives, have been steadily on the increase, ever since the unfortunate Ilbert Bill controversy. And more unfortunate still is the fact that about 75 per cent of these cases crop up in places like Assam where Europeans of the lowest order settle down isolated from the chastening influences of civilization and enlightenment, conscious in their minds that they are not amenable to public opinion where no public opinion exists, and are "the monarchs of all they survey." And the explanation lies in a nutshell. Assam and the neighbouring planting districts were the hot-beds of agitation against the Ilbert Bill, and materially strengthened the hands of the Defence Association. The reason of this strenuous opposition, on the part of the Assam Europeans particularly, becomes plain enough when we come to consider the composition of European society in those parts of the country. It was well-known that Europeans of the type of Webb, who are a plentiful crop in that part of the country, would have occasion of being hauled up before Criminal Courts more frequently than any others, and that knowledge made them set their hearts on thwarting that salutary measure of Mr. Ilbert. And it is to the practical defeat of that measure, which has emboldened the roughs very materially, that we may safely attribute this enormous increase in European crime. The time has come when the Government has got to demonstrate beyond question that the supremacy of law is to remain intact, the defeat of a thousand Ilbert Bills notwithstanding. It is hard indeed when Her Majesty's courts of law fail to make a demonstration like this, and such a failure has unfortunately for the people taken place most pre-eminently in Webb's case. It is almost customary for the Government to send for the papers of cases where gross failure of justice is suspected The early laurels of Lord Lytton in India, were won by his Lordship's praiseworthy conduct in connection with the celebrated Fuller case. We could enumerate many more instances of Government interference in similar cases, if need were. It was only the other day that Lord Ripon's Government interfered in a case in which a European had assaulted a native gentleman of rank and position in Behar. And are we to understand that if the Government had thought proper to interfere in a case of trivial offence it will let go unnoticed an offence the enormity of which is better imagined than described. We would earnestly beseech the Government to send for the papers of this notorious case without a moment's delay, and quiet the native public mind which has, we may say, been worked up to fever heat on but too sufficient grounds. Mr. Justice Norris in the course of his judgment on the case observes: "Any man who in such a position of trust as the accused was, as regards these coolies, and *bound to protect them, abuses his trust* and satisfies his lust on another man's wife under such circumstances as are here alleged, seems to me to deserve a very severe punishment." That is exactly what seems to us, and would seem to every right-thinking man. In the interests of the poor unprotected cooly who goes helpless to a strange land, if in no other interests, would we, with all the earnestness we can command, invoke the aid and interference of the Government. And if Government interference is not forthcoming betimes, there is no knowing as to where matters will end. We have had the Francis case, the Sgardelli case, the Boyce Mahut shooting case, the Rutnagiri shooting case, and to crown all the Webb case, and who knows how many more cases are in store, unless prompt and effective measures are taken to put them down. That the people are right in apprehending that each and every one of these cases is an earnest of many more to come is very painfully illustrated by an occurrence reported in a recent issue of the *Sanjivani*. A driver on the new Assam Railway, seeing a native female passing on the road, actually stopped the train, got down and committed an indecent assault on her. The details are of too brutal a nature to enumerate. The Deputy Commissioner of Dibrugur who happened to be in the train wondering why the train stopped so suddenly and apprehending some accident also got out and caught the brute red-handed and could bring him to his senses only by kicks and blows. The man was, however, subsequently let go with the trivial punishment of two weeks' hard labour and a paltry fine for an offence for which he was liable to imprisonment which might extend to ten years. Insufficiency of evidence could not be set up as a plea, as it was in the Webb case, because the Deputy Commissioner happened to be an eye-witness. We wonder the case has not been further heard of, and has not been sent up to the High Court for revision. We trust our contemporary who published the report will be able to give us further particulars. This case coming after the Webb case is an excellent commentary as a sequel, and it requires no prophet to tell that many more similar reports will reach the public ear soon enough, unless the Government intercedes at once. He must be but a bad observer of human affairs who can shut his eyes to the fact that such failure of justice materially shakes the confidence of the people in their Government, and confidence can be restored only by a strict administration of justice and by no other means.

THE WEBB CASE.

THE details of the Webb case are already familiar enough to our readers and we need not enter into them afresh. We propose to confine ourselves merely to some of the most salient points in the judgment of the High Court and of the Lower Courts. The power of enhancing sentence with which the High Courts alone are vested under the new C. P. C. is part of the revisional jurisdiction of these courts, under which as a rule, the evidence recorded by the Lower Courts is binding on the High Courts. In the Dacca students' case, for example, justice Cunningham refused to quash Rajnath's conviction as he held that the findings of the Magistrate were binding upon the Court dealing with the case in its revisional capacity. The observations of Mr. Justice Markby with referrence to another important case are very much to the point:—"I consider that in dealing with the question of credibility of oral testimony, we ought to place very great reliance on the opinion of the Judge, who had the witnesses before him; who saw their demeanour; who heard the questions put to them; and who also heard their answers given in their own language. A mere record in another language and in a narrative form is but a very imperfect representation of what passes between a witness and Counsel, more specially in cross-examination. For these reasons, all Courts of Appeal, whether Civil or Criminal,

do rely much on the opinion formed by the Court of Origiual Jurisdiction." In the present case, however, we fail to see why a distinct departure should have been made from the law, and why the High Court should have weighed afresh the evidence which had been *fully believed* by the two Lower Courts, and upon the strength of which they recorded concurrent findings of guilty against the accused. The finding ought to have been accepted by the High Court, and its only duty as a revisional Court was to determine whether the punishment inflicted was adequate or not. The refusal of their lordships to enhance the sentence was a clear violation of both law and precedent.

Let us for a moment turn our attention to the finding of the Magistrate himself according to which Webb was guilty of offences punishable under Section 342 and 323 I. P. C.; and the maximum cumulative punishment of these offences would be two years' imprisonment and 2,009 Rs. fine, which Mr. MacLeod as a first class Magistrate was competent to inflict on Webb even if he had claimed to be tried as a European British subject, which he did not. The Magistrate himself has little doubt as to what the object of Shukarmonie's confinement was—though he says there is no strict legal proof thereof, and the Judge Mr. Luttman-Johnson has no doubt that Webb had connection with her. It is difficult to see why the accused should not have been charged of rape under Section 375. I. P. C. or at any rate of attempt thereof, because if the facts of Webb's dragging Shukarmoni into his cabin and passing the night with her, of some of the witnesses having heard her crying *Mago Pet Galo* and the appearance of her cloth on the following morning do not afford a "legal proof" of the offence, no legal proof can ever be afforded, and all the cases in which prisoners have hitherto been convicted of the offence are bad convictions. The Assistant Surgeon's testimony that she died of natural causes does not falsify the allegation, because she died considerably after the occurrence. But supposing even that the charge of rape, or attempt thereof, could not be entertained, where was the objection of charging the prisoner under Section 354? In the Krishnagore students' case we find the legal ingenuity and legal accumen, of Magistrates and Police Superintendants employed in hunting up sections under which to charge the students. But in the present case when the accused could, on the face of the evidence which the Magistrate admits he believes, have been charged of all or any of the sections we have enumerated above and many more, he was charged merely of wrongful confinement and simple assault and let go with a punishment which is a mere insult to understanding and justice. We had much rather that he had been declared innocent and discharged than that we should have lived to witness this most deplorable travesty of justice.

We regret the space we have at our command forbids us to comment upon some very important points which we should have very much desired to do. A simple and unvarnished tale of the outrage is all that is required to convince the unsophisticated that a most gross miscarriage of justice has taken place. We understand that a full report of this and similar cases will soon be published. And we have no doubt that when this pamphlet reaches the British public for whom it is intended, sufficient justice will be done to the case. Need we tell our rulers as we have done times without number that the supreme confidence of the vast Indian Public in British justice is what upholds the British Empire more than any other agency, and we would earnestly ask them not to permit anything to be done which would in the least shake that confidence.

THE DEBATE ON THE PUNJAB MUNICIPAL BILL.

AT the meeting of the Viceregal Legislative Council on the 20th ultimo there was an animated debate upon the Punjab Municipalities Bill; but the discussion, we regret to say, mainly turned upon a comparatively minor and unimportant point, which has little interest for the community at large. The Bill as introduced by Mr. Barkley last year sought to legalize the practice of taxing the furniture of houses in the hill stations where houses are usually let furnished. A proviso was accordingly added to the explanation of 'annual value' expressly authorising the continuance of this practice. The Select Committee, however, modified the Bill in this respect. They defined the expression 'annual value' as meaning the gross annual rent for which buildings or lands might reasonably be expected to let, the majority of the Committee being of opinion that the rent to be considered in estimating the annual value is the same for which they would let if unfurnished. Mr. Barkley, the member in charge of the Bill and the Punjab Government which he represents in the Legislative Council, did not approve of the change made by the Select Committee. So when the report of the Committee came up for consideration, Mr. Barkley moved an amendment which sought to restore the explanation of 'annual value,' as it stood in the Bill originally introduced. The motion, be it remembered, affected the hill-station municipalities; and the question was, therefore, discussed with great warmth and earnestness. Mr. Barkley contended that the existing system of taxing houses in hill-stations should be maintained, without discriminating between the payment made for the use of the house and the payment made for the use of the furniture; and that the change made by the Select Committee would produce much inconvenience in practice. He was strongly supported by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. Sir Charles Aitchison explained at some length the reasons which had induced him to vote for the amendment. He admitted that the practice in England is to tax the unfurnished house; but he urged that the only practical effect of the change made by the Select Committee, if adopted by the Council, would be either that landlords would have to reduce proportionately the aggregate amount demanded from their tenants, or they would simply intercept a portion of the sum paid by tenants which in reality was the house-tax, and which should find its way into the municipal fund instead of sticking in the pockets of the landlord. Sir Charles confined his remarks chiefly to Simla with the circumstances of which he was best acquainted. He said that in 90 per cent. of the Simla houses the furniture is of the most inferior and worthless description, so that in one case out of ten there was no material difference between furnished and an unfurnished house, and the Municipal Committee would be put to the expense and trouble of trying to make a distinction in such matters without appreciable difference. "Why for such a matter," asked the Lieutenant-Governor "dislocate the arrangements which have hitherto prevailed between landlord and tenant? I can conceive no greater mischief than for the Legislature to interfere in this way with the business customs of the community." Sir Charles Aitchison further urged that the practice which the Select Committee sought to abolish had existed ever since the Simla Municipality was established; that it had worked well and smoothly; that the Municipal Committee unanimously desired its retention; and that the community desired no change. The other side of the question was ably argued by Mr. Quinton, Mr. Hope, and Mr. Ilbert. Mr. Quinton pointed out that Mr. Barkley's amendment proposed to tax under certain circumstances chattels in the shape of the furniture of hired houses; that the Municipal Acts in other parts of the country which authorised the imposition of taxes on lands and houses did not lay down that the furniture of a house should be taxed; that the facility of assessment promised by the scheme put forward in the amendment could be achieved only by a disregard of sound economical principles; and that the inconvenience likely to be caused by the disturbance of the existing practice in some places did not justify the adoption of unsound economical principles to any extent as a basis for legislation. Mr. Hope discussed both the legal and practical aspects of the question. He said that the power to take a tax on the annual rental of a house does not include a power to tax furniture and quoted the opinion of Mr. Evans, of the Calcutta Bar, in support of this view. He then showed that the adoption of Mr. Barkley's amendment would involve endless difficulties and anomalies. The same opinion was expressed by Mr. Ilbert, who thought that the acceptance of the motion would produce far greater difficulties and complications than its rejection. The Law member pertinently observed:—"There is a very attractive simplicity about the practice of taxing a house on the rent actually paid for it without regard to the consideration what part of the rent represents the hire of furniture; and I do not in the least blame the Simla Municipal authorities for having adopted this practice under the circumstances with which they had to deal. But a practice of this kind belongs essentially to a state of things which, to the regret of some, to the satisfaction of others, but by the admission of all, is passing away in the Punjab and other parts of India. It belongs essentially to what may be called the pre-legal age. It is one of the conditions of the existence of such a simple, rough-and-ready easy-going practice that it should not be minutely scrutinised, and above all that you should not formulate it." The Viceroy also spoke against Mr. Barkley's amendment, which was then put to the Council and lost.

The Bill as originally introduced did not specify the acts and omissions not prohibited by the general law which should be punishable under the Municipal law. It merely contained a power to make rules prohibiting acts of the nature of nuisances and regulating entry on private property for the detection and abatement of nuisances. The Select Committee, in compliance with a suggestion made by Mr. Plowden, the Senior Judge of the Lahore Chief Court, decided to set forth with some fulness the powers of Municipal Committees for sanitary and other purposes, and the offences affecting the public health, safety or convenience, punishable under the municipal law. Two new chapters were accordingly added to the Bill. When the report of the Select Committee came up for consideration Mr. Ilbert ably defended the course which had been adopted by the Committee. In doing so, the Legal Member discussed the important question of how much should be put into the body of an Act of this kind, and how much power of regulating sanitary matters and suppressing nuisances should be left to be exercised by bye-laws. Mr. Ilbert said that the addition of the two chapters mentioned above had effected a very considerable improvement in the Bill. He then continued:—"After having inspected some of the bye-laws made or proposed under the existing law, I am bound to admit that there is a certain amount of risk in delegating to local authorities the power to legislate about nuisances and other matters, even when that power is exercised subject to the approval of the Local Government. Chapter VII of the present Bill, the chapter relating to offences affecting the public health, safety or convenience, was based on a comparison of several existing sets of bye-laws; and when I looked at the first draft of that chapter, I thought that a good many of the rules it contained were open to serious objection. There were rules which repeated provisions of the Penal Code, of the Criminal Procedure Code, and of the Police Act, with modifications which would have had the effect of making those provisions more absolute, more stringent, and more severe; and there were other rules which, as it appeared to me, interfered with the liberty of the subject in an unnecessarily arbitrary, minute and vexatious manner." These remarks possess a wider interest than the matter to which they were intended to apply. We look upon them as a protest against the practice of delegating to the Executive Government the power of dealing with important matters by rules. This practice has largely grown within the last few years. The Legislature passes a short Act laying down principles and then leaves the most important matters to be dealt with at the discretion of the Executive Government. Take for instance, the Punjab Municipalities Bill in reference to which Mr. Ilbert's observations quoted above were made. This measure leaves almost every thing to the discretion of the Executive Government. We have always fought against this sort of legisla-

tion. We are unable to understand why the Legislature should abdicate its functions and leave important matters to be dealt with by the Executive Government. If the Legislature is not fit to decide the important points which it now in too many cases leaves to the discretion of the Executive Government, it is not fit to legislate.

On the motion that the Bill as amended be passed, Sir Charles Aitchison gave a short history of the growth of Municipal institutions in the Punjab and pointed out that no less than 96 per cent. of the entire municipal income of the Province aggregating 28 lakhs of Rupees, is derived from Octroi duties. There are altogether 202 municipalities in the Punjab with incomes ranging from over Rupees three lakhs on the one hand to less than Rs. 1,000 on the other. The great majority of the municipalities consist of petty towns and some of them are only agricultural villages. The Local Government will have to decide as to each place where Municipal institutions now exist whether the provisions of the Bill just passed are suited to that place; and the new law also empowers the Lieutenant-Governor to put an end to any municipalities which he considers unfit to be brought under it. We have every hope that this power will be wisely used by Sir Charles Aitchison, and the municipalities which consist of mere agricultural villages will be abolished to the great relief of the inhabitants.

INTRODUCTORY LECTURES IN THE CALCUTTA MEDICAL COLLEGE.

THE LAST number of the *Calcutta Journal of Medicine* contains an able and well-written protest against the abolition of Introductory Lectures in the Medical College of Calcutta. It appears that the authorities have decided on the discontinuance of these Lectures. We heartily join our contemporary in raising our humble voice against this unwise edict. In the life of man whether individual or aggregate to read the past aright is to read the future aright, and nowhere does this remark apply with greater force than to those departments of human thought and human research in which almost every day is marked by sustained and vigorous progress. In a scientific course of education, therefore, such as is pursued in the Medical College of the Metropolis, nothing could be better calculated to make a vivid and abiding impression on the students than a general survey by each Professor of the conquests already achieved and those which remain to be made in his own *specialite*. Sailing on the symbolical sea of nature as a member of that devoted band of cultured men, who have been privileged to study one of her particular aspects, it is surely of as much importance to look at his dead-reckoning as watching the prospect ahead, to measure correctly his previous advance, and to be forewarned as to the shoals and the sand-banks that lie before him. And what better opportunity could he have for the discharge of this solemn task—we had almost said, of this most essential duty—than when he begins his year's arduous work. The commencement of the year is with us, as it is with very many nations, a day of retrospect. And certainly to the Professors of Medicine and its allied sciences the day of the Introductory Lecture ought to be a solemn day, a day of thoughtful and suggestive retrospect.

Apart, however, from these considerations the delivery of the Introductory Lectures marks an epoch in the career of the students themselves. In the well-chosen words of our contemporary, "it is the brightest side of a profession that attracts new members to it, and it is not till men have entered it that they become aware of its dark side, its difficulties, its temptations, and its dangers. The medical profession while it has its bright side, brighter than that of any other profession, has its dark side also, darker in the same proportion than that of others. It is certainly an advantage to have these vague ideas rendered clear and definite, to have both sides of the profession depicted faithfully in order that the students may enter on their studies, not only with zeal and enthusiasm, but with humility and earnestness, diffidence and devotion. * * * To have a sort of outline or sketch, a skeleton of a science before one's view, certainly facilitates its study and the better comprehension of its principles when its facts have been gathered"

Besides, the forces that shape and mould the young mind are not intellectual forces alone, and we hold that the educationist has but half mastered the secrets of his art who neglects to appeal to the emotional phases of their nature; and we cannot conceive of a more powerful appeal to the zeal of the students than could be made by a few stirring words in an Introductory Lecture by which they should be called upon to rise to a due appreciation of the responsibilities of their position and to enter the hall of knowledge in the true spirit of scientific chivalry; prepared to sacrifice wealth and health, life and all that makes life dear in the fulfilment of the noble mission to unravel the mysteries of nature and to relieve human suffering. Dr. Sircar alludes to the pregnant Sanskrit name given to Hindoo Medicine as the "science of life," to prove that the main object of the profession was well recognized in India; he might have added that so strongly was this recognition accentuated in practice that men still remember the days when the native *Vaidya* or healer used to go his round, knock at the door of every house which disease had invaded, and, nobly oblivious of rupees, annas and pice, attend for days and months at the bed-side of the sufferer, seeking his highest reward in asserting the dominion of his skill and the reign of his beloved art over death and its terrors. Perhaps no higher ideal of a professor of the healing art was ever sketched forth in the imagination of a nation than in the Hindu God of medicine—poor and destitute, lowly clad and obliged to smear his body with ashes to keep off the cold, he pursued his researches on the cremation ground and in the wildness of forests for ages and ages, undaunted by difficulties and unsubdued by privations, while the only object that guided his ambition, the solitary pole-star which, as it were, lighted his course, was the prospect of victory over the ills to which flesh is heir.

Our contemporary's remarks on the political aspect of the question would have been of great practical utility if the students of the Medical College had been composed mainly of Europeans, but even as matters at present stand we sincerely trust that feelings dictated by the widest and the most cosmopolitan sympathy will permeate the noble profession whose aim, to quote the eloquent words of Dr. Sircar, "is to relieve the prince and the peasant, the learned and the ignorant, civilized and the savage, the Asiatic, the European and the African."

We feel sure the high-minded and honorable European gentlemen who follow that profession in this country are actuated by this spirit of kindliness, not only to their patients, but also to that large class of their native *confreres* who are bound to them by the ties of brotherhood and companionship in a pursuit in which their common interests demand a close federation, and race feelings are altogether out of place.

We regret that the decidedly retrograde step which the discontinuance of the Lectures indicates, should have been taken during the incumbency of so popular a Principal as Dr. Coates, and we hope he will reconsider the matter and, if not too late, try to respond to the sentiments of the country.

A PLEA FOR MERCY.

QUIDNUNCS have it that Mr. Croft, the Director of Public Instruction, has instructed Professor Mahesachandra Nyayaratna, of the Sanskrit College, to induce some of the rusticated boys of the 3rd year class of the Presidency College, to become informers or approvers against their classmates, and to communicate to the Professor, either *in propriis personis*, or by an anonymous letter, the names of the boys who were the ringleaders in the late *fracas*. We do not believe a word of this story. In the estimation of some Europeans, natives are bad enough and capable of any amount of perfidy, and Mr. Croft and the Pandit might think that they can get the boys to betray their comrades, but they know that there is honor even among thieves, and it is highly dishonorable even among thieves and cutthroats to blab against their pals, and that it is hard to overcome that feeling. They are, therefore, never likely to make an attempt which would for certain fail. And if it did succeed it would make the life of the betrayers, with the brand of the *goinda* stamped on their forehead, intolerable in their class, so that they would injure the boys instead of helping them. But we go further. Whatever may be the opinion of the native public regarding the sympathy of the Director and the Professor for the people of this country, and that is certainly not very high, we are unhesitatingly of opinion that Mr. Croft is too thorough a gentleman to demean himself by stooping to so low a stratagem. We would as soon believe that we could pick the pocket of our neighbour, as believe Mr. Croft, as the head of the Education Department, capable of teaching the boys the practice of betraying their comrades by anonymous letters for their private gain. The idea is shocking, and no gentleman would tolerate it for a moment. As for the Professor, however unpopular he may be, he too is a gentleman, and incapable of condescending to so unbecoming an act. Besides, they are both perfectly well aware that there is no ringleadership in the business at all, and cannot be. The *fracas* was spontaneous, and the boys clapped and hooted and howled because the sight before them suggested the idea. No one designed or laid the plan from beforehand that a boy should come to the class chewing betel leaf or betel-nut, whatever it might be, and that he should gently go out and wash his mouth and resume his seat. None could think that the teacher would be so harsh and unreasonable and irregular as to order a boy to stand up after he had dutifully obeyed his orders. Nor could any one divine that the said teacher would tuck up his sleeves, as if going to compete for Mr. Smith's belt, and chase the lad, and order the Durwan to *pukrow* him. And if not, there could not be any premeditation or ringleadership. It was the teacher who quite forgot himself, and made a bully of himself, and the sight was too much for boys to behold, and preserve their gravity. They may try their best to keep the devil under, but it is no use. A keen sense of the ridiculous and the grotesque is a special peculiarity of youth, and even much elder men will often succumb to it. We do not defend the boys; we are clearly of opinion, as we said in our last issue, that they were wrong, nay grossly ill-behaved, and deserve to be punished. But we cannot forget that boys will be boys all over the world and the sight of the ludicrous cannot but excite cachinnation in youths in their teens, and, taking these facts into consideration, we hold that the punishment meted out is excessive. Judging by his calm, sedate, studious look, his phlegmatic temperament, and his habitual "I don't care," we do not believe that Mr. Tawney ever indulged in a school-boy frolic, and in the Convocation hall of his University he must have sat in a corner, the very picture of patience on a monument. But Mr. Croft is of a different mould. His energy, activity and vivacity, his lusty thews and sinews, leave no doubt in our mind that in his college-days he must have taken the lead among his classmates in all their sports and pastimes, and we would ask him, was he ever present at a Convocation in his University? and if so, did he or no express his approval or his disapproval of the candidates for honorary degrees as they proceeded to the *dais* to receive their diplomas? Say that he did not, still does he not remember the clapping and hissing and groaning which his classmates indulged in on such occasions? If he does, and remember he must, will he tell us that an order for a year's rustication for all his fellow-students and himself would have been proper? If not, he must permit us to repeat that his recent order is excessively severe and uncalled for. It is unjust too, as he condemns the innocent along with the guilty, and what is worse it has been passed without an enquiry. This is not as it should be. In the worst case of riot in a Sessions Court, identification and participation in an overt act have to be proved before a person can be pronounced guilty, but in a school Mr. Tawney, the Principal, and Mr. Croft, the Director, have thought fit to set aside all such restraints,

and like Major Ramsay of Nuddea, who caught all who dwelt in their lodgings or were found bathing in a river, and sent them to the lock-up in the hope that the Penal Code will somehow entangle them, fell upon all the boys of a class, numbering in all 96, and, without any semblance of a trial or enquiry, convicted them all round. In no other walk of life would these gentlemen have tolerated such high-handed a course. It is obvious that they acted on the impulse of the moment, but now that their anger has cooled down, and the time for calm deliberation has arrived, we hope and trust that on a reconsideration of the case they will modify their order. A much lighter punishment, a letter of apology for instance, would amply suffice for the boyish offence of clapping. We think, too, that Mr. Tawney's order prohibiting the boys from entering private schools is entirely arbitrary and cruel, quite unbecoming his well-known character for moderation and kindness. It should be at once set aside. As the case now stands, we have justice scandalized; native public feeling outraged, 96 young men deprived the opportunity of study for a year—some for ever—progress of education injured, the college made to lose nearly Rs. 12,000 in course of the next twelve months; and all for the sake of offering incense to the *amour propre* of a teacher who mistook chewing a betel-nut to be *anathema maranatha*. We know some pedagogues take an unpleasant look at them to be more heinous than overt rebellion against Her Majesty's rule, but we cannot for a moment believe that Messrs. Croft and Tawney in their sober moments would place themselves under that category.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE now before us several scores of letters and telegrams addressed by noblemen and gentlemen in different parts of India, expressing their sorrow and the sense of loss sustained by the country by the death of the late Hon'ble Kristodas Pal. Among the writers we notice the names of Sir Stuart Bayley, His Highness the Maharaja of Vizianagram, His Highness the Maharaja of Benares, His Highness the Maharaja of Dumraon, His Highness the Newab of Murshedabad, Moharani Surnomoyi, C. I. the Maharaja of Dinajpur, Raja Samananda Roy, of Teota; the Hon'ble V. N. Mandalik; C. C. Stevens Esq. C. S., H. J. S. Cotton Esq., C. S.; Jules Joubert Esq.; M. S. Srinivasa Rao Esq., of Mysore, and others whose good opinion of our late friend's services claims the highest consideration. It is highly gratifying to us to know that such exalted persons as the Maharajas of Behar, and the North-West, and the Southern Presidency entertained such high regard for the deceased. It is, we believe, the first time in the history of India that such persons have so spontaneously testified their esteem for a person in the middle walk of life, and it augurs well for the future of our nationality. It would have given us very great pleasure to print all the letters, but our limited space forbids such an attempt. We must content ourselves, therefore, by tendering to one and all who have expressed their sympathy and condolence our most cordial thanks.

BABU PEARYMOHUN MUKERJI, M. A. B. L., has been elected Honorary Secretary to the British Indian Association. The new Secretary is well deserving of the great honor which has been conferred on him. He has a long career of usefulness before him, and we feel confident that he will prove himself worthy of the great trust which the Association has reposed in him.

A LONG list of works of public utility constructed by private individuals during 1883 has been published by Government authority. These include buildings, roads, bridges, embankments, tanks, wells, masonry ghats, sluice gates, and other petty works. The total cost has been Rs. 2,17,142. Of this amount upwards of 1,21,324 Rs. has been spent on digging tanks. This is highly creditable to those generous men who have done this good deed. We are glad to observe that voluntary contributions by native gentlemen for works of public utility have been constantly increasing, and we have no doubt that if proper encouragement is given to those persons who show such liberality, generous beneficences would greatly multiply in the province.

SURGEON F. C. CHATTERJI deserves great credit for the public spirit and liberality he has shown in offering to invest Rs. 5000 for the foundation of a scholarship to be awarded to the best student in the Calcutta Medical College in the subject of practical and theoretical Histology, normal and morbid. The scholarship will be open to competition by fourth year students, whether male or female. This is as it should be. We would commend the example of Surgeon F. C. Chatterji to those graduates of the Medical College who have made their fortune in the Medical profession.

THERE HAS BEEN nothing but rain in Calcutta during the past week. But the accounts from the districts are not cheering. We are greatly concerned to hear that the rain-fall has been unusually small in amount over the greater part of the province. Over the greater part of North Bengal the rain-fall has been abnormally small, and in other parts of the province it has been considerably below the average. The area, we are informed, in which the rain-fall has been most deficient in amount includes the Central districts of Bengal. The out-look is anything but cheering.

THE RULES which are published in the *Calcutta Gazette* to provide for house accommodation, food, water supply, sanitary arrangements. hospital accommodation, and medical treatment at places of labour in Chittagong and the Chittagong Hill Tracts show that the subject of Coolie Emigration is engaging the anxious attention of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. Minute directions are given for providing wholesome drinking water, and skilful medical attendance. "Each labourer and dependent shall be entitled to not less than 50 superficial feet of house accommodation; and each family shall be entitled to separate house accommodation on the above scale. Sufficient garden ground shall, if possible, be attached to each house." Who could say after this that the lot of the labourers would be that of bond-slaves! The employers and Inspectors of labourers, unfortunately, are not amenable to human rules and regulations, and laugh to scorn the thunders of Belvedere. The treatment to which these labourers is subjected would, if exposed to light, supply another Mrs. Stowe with a thrilling story of an Indian "Uncle Tom." Government cannot be too vigilant of the conduct of the employers of labourers, and the Inspectors, we must say, are not immaculate.

MR. RIVERS THOMPSON is determinedto improve the sanitary condition of Bengal. Calcutta is not the only place whose sanitary work is engaging his attention, and the Commissioners of the Corporation are not the only persons whose apathy and indifference have been severely censured. The Lieutenant-Governor has been compelled to notice unfavourably the comparatively small amount of sanitary work done in the province by officers of the Sanitary Department. This subject was prominently alluded to in the Resolution recorded last year, and in view of the instructions then issued by the Sanitary Commissioner, and the remarks made by Government, it was hoped that the records of 1883 would show a marked improvement in this respect. But the fates are against His Honor. All his attempts to infuse energy into the Department have failed, and he justly complains that the sanitary improvement is much less than the Lieutenant-Governor considers he has a right to expect! Of course the vial of his wrath cannot be poured on the Sanitary Commissioner, because the Lieutenant-Governor is aware that Dr. Lidderdale assumed charge of the office of Sanitary Commissioner only a few days before the close of the year, and he is, therefore, not responsible for the defective sanitary arrangements of the province. The responsibility must be shifted to other heads.

IT IS satisfactory to note that there is a slight decrease in the total registered mortality from fever compared with 1882. There has been a reduction of 16,177 in the number of deaths, and ·25 per mille in the death-rate. The improvement is very little, but still it is something for which we should be thankful. The seasonal incidence of fever, as illustrated by the mortuary statistics recorded during 1883, again shows that the disease is most fatal in the cold weather after the rains have ceased, especially during the months of November and December when the sodden soil is rapidly drying and there is a great daily range of temperature. As in previous years the disease has been most virulent in the Burdwan, Presidency, and Rajshahye Divisions. The virulence, it is said, of both the Burdwan and the Nuddea fevers is diminishing, the former at a rapid rate. There are, however, signs that it is spreading into adjoining districts, such as the Sonthal Pergunnahs, which have hitherto enjoyed a happy and remarkable immunity. Of the local enquiries instituted in the cause of fever in the various districts of the province, mention is made in particular of the enquiry made by Dr. Ghose, Civil Surgeon of Bankoora. Dr. Ghose is of opinion that 'subsoil moisture is not *per se* the cause of fever, but that so long as the contagion, whatever it might be, was not introduced either by human agency or from village to village by the wind, the humidity of the soil did no harm, but the contagion once falling on congenial ground multiplied in abundance, in proportion to the soil moisture, and caused the disease. Where the moisture in the soil owing to the proximity of a marsh is perennially damp there the fever prevails the most."

SOME Indian gentlemen now in London lately invited several members of the House of Commons and others who take an interest in Indian affairs to a breakfast at the Westminister Palace Hotel. The attendance was good, and the exchange of opinions all that could be desired. The kindly sentiments expressed by some of the M. P's claim our cordial thanks. The most important question mooted was the running of Mr. Lalmohun Ghose for a seat in Parliament, ostensively to represent a small borough, but practically to urge the wants and wishes of India on the attention of the British legislators. It is gratifying to notice that the proposition was well received, and there appears to be a fair chance of the attempt proving successful if the necessary election charges could be provided. Nor is the amount required such as to preclude the possibility of its being raised here. Unfortunately, however, Mr. Ghose has so identified himself with the Bengal Tenancy Bill, that he cannot reckon upon the sympathy of those who are best able to pay—the zemindars. The question is not one of sentiment, but of practical utility. It is not the pleasure of seeing an Indian seated in the House of Commons that the Indians want, but an advocate pleading their cause where it can prove most beneficial; and no zemindar can relish the idea of sending there one whose duty will be to try his utmost to ruin them. We think under the circumstances the zemindars will be perfectly justified in withholding their aid. No one is bound by any law of morality or duty to fee his opponent's counsel, and none in his senses, no matter whether his case be right or wrong, will do so. He must be a fool if he does. The advocates of the project must, therefore, give them up altogether, and look to other sources for their sinews of war. The project, however, need not fall to the ground. There is the National Fund or the Indian Association to look up to, and many a so-called ryots' friend can easily help the cause. In England every candidate defrays his own election expenses, or is helped by the party to which he belongs, and in India it cannot and should not be otherwise.

MEETINGS AGAINST the Bengal Tenancy Bill are becoming so numerous all over the Province that latterly we have not been able to keep pace with them, and give them that prominent notice in these columns which they fully deserve. There is much of a muchness, it is true, but still these meetings clearly prove that the landholders of

Bengal and Behar are watching with extreme anxiety the progress of the Bill, and are greatly apprehensive of the action of Government which would entirely subvert their cherished rights and privileges. The meeting which took place at Shahabad, under the presidency of His Highness the Maharaja of Doomraon, was extremely important, and we are glad to notice that representatives of all sections of the agricultural community were present, and took an active part in its proceedings. The proceedings were conducted in Vernacular, and we are informed that many ryots were present, who could easily follow the speakers. They must have gone away from the meeting with the impression that the object of the zemindars in protesting against the Tenancy Bill is not after all to sqeeze and ruin their tenantry. The speakers all displayed an intimate knowledge of the subject under discussion, and spoke with a depth of feeling which would convince every right-thinking person that the grievous wrong which Government intends to inflict on them would be productive of baneful consequences in the province. One of the speakers justly said: "Gentlemen, you have heard of Warwick, the King-maker. The present bill proposes to make ryots the zemindar-makers." Yes, the provisions of the Bill will give such enormous powers to the tenantry that it will be easy for them to make and unmake zemindars. Really the tables are turned. But is there no remedy? Can we believe that the British public would suffer the India Government to break its most solemn pledge, and deprive the zemindars of their proprietary rights? We would fain hope that Lord Ripon would not allow such an unjust and oppressive and tyrannical measure to proceed any further. Mr. Rivers Thompson believes that if the provisions of the Bill were rightly understood much of the zemindar's opposition to it would disappear. His experience is that zemindars as a body believe the Bill to contain provisions which do not exist in it, and which are contrary to its object. We really wish that His Honor were right in his supposition. The Bill has been dissected in every possible way, and we fail to discover those latent provisions which would afford the least glimmering of hope to the zemindars.

WE HAVE received the first two numbers of the *Prachara*, the prospectus of which we noticed some time ago The two numbers we have seen fully realize the expectations we formed of this journal. It is a high-class Magazine in every sense of the word. Some of our eminent writers contribute to the journal, and the subjects which we find treated in it are done in a style which does their authors great credit. The greatest recommendation of the articles in the journal is that they are comprehensible to the most ordinary understanding. Every thing is written in such a chaste and simple style that it is a great relief to turn from the heavy Vernacular Magazines to this light airy gossamer-like production which refreshes the mind by its sweet effusions. The writers show a profound knowledge of human nature. They endeavour to impress on the mind the most recondite truths in religion and philosophy by clothing them in an attractive dress. They come to us like familiar friends and we welcome them with joy. The writer of the article on 'Old Bengal' has shown a remarkable mastery of the subject, and has given us facts which are simply invaluable. Like the rich vein of historical ore opened up by Dr. Rajendralala Mitra in his valuable researches regarding the Sen and Pal dynasties, the discovery of the Gangaradis promises important results. The subject deserves to be more fully treated. Babu Bankim Chandra Chatterji is contributing a series of able papers on 'Hinduism' and 'Hindu Culture,' which throw a flood of light on questions which are little understood even by the modern philosophers of Europe. His 'rural sketches' is exquisite, and his paper on the 'Vedas' is full of suggestive thoughts. We shall anxiously watch the development of his ideas on Vedic ground. Babu Hem Chandra Banerji has for once laid down his Miltonic grandeur, and gives us sweet music in the pages of *Prachara*. His verses are simply delightful. We understand that this journal already commands a large sale. It deserves to be successful, and we heartily wish it success.

THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS, at their special meeting held on Friday last, appointed Mr. Cotton, Senior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, as their representative to serve on the Commission appointed under Sec. 28. They have done well in adopting this course. The *Englishman*, apprehending this, said a good deal lately to prevent it. It urged that if the Commissioners at all chose to return a member to the Commission they should select one of their own body, whose municipal experience would be of practical service to the Commission. It said that the provision for allowing a Municipal member to sit on the Commission unmistakeably implied that there should be some one to watch the proceedings ON BEHALF OF the Commissioners, to see that they are not in any wise misrepresented, and to take care that all the facts that ought to be placed before the Commission are actually so placed. It taunted the Commissioners by saying that their selection of an outsider would show that they could not get hold of an eligible member of their own body, and thereby justify the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor that there is no one among them who is fit for the work of the Corporation, and that Mr. Morris would be able to teach them what to do. All this and many other specious arguments were put forth in the most enticing form to mislead the unfortunate Corporators; but for once they have risen above the tempter. They are on their trial, and they have no faith in the Judges already appointed, and they did well in putting upon the bench one whose honesty, ability and rectitude of purpose were far above the reach of malice and scandal, and whose voice would command respect everywhere. This was infinitely better than thrusting one of themselves to a seat where his action would be treated with neglect and be always open to suspicion. The object is to counteract all possible mischief from bias and other causes, and not to put facts in shipshape before the Judges, the facts being already well known to the Government nominees. Mr. Harrison gave a clear bill of health to Mr. Beverley about the signing of the notorious memorial, but he failed to say, or refrained from saying, anything about the surreptitious minute to which we called attention in our last issue Anyhow it is notorious that Mr. Beverley's reign in the Municipal Office was far from a peaceful one, and even the ordinary courtesy of a vote of thanks at the time of his retirement was disputed. We have not the smallest possible doubt that Mr. Beverley will judge most impartially, but it is due to the Corporators that, should occasion arise for a dissent, there should be present some one on whose probity and justice they could unhesitatingly rely. Taking this view of the case we are of opinion that the selection the Corporators have made is a most unexceptional one. The law neither expressly or impliedly requires that none but a Municipal Commissioner is to be returned by the Corporation, and in the case of a thoroughly intelligent man of Mr. Cotton's position it would not matter very much as to whether he had "charge of any large Municipality" or not, considering that the Chairman will be able to give him very material assistance as regards the details. It seems to us that his broad views, his thorough independence of character, and, above all, his large sympathies with the natives of this country make him eminently fitted for the important trust that the Commissioners have honoured him with, and we hope his presence on the Commission will be calculated to make it as efficient as is possible under the circumstances.

Mr. Buckland's objection to the appointment of Mr. Cotton on the score of the difficulty as regards pay does not seem to be a very weighty one. It is clear that the Government nominees must be relieved from their other duties just as well as the Municipal nominee, if they are to discharge their duties with any degree of satisfaction. If the Government pays two of the members, we don't see why it should not pay the third also, because the Commission is appointed on its own motion and not on the motion of the Municipality. Supposing that a Municipal Commissioner who happened to be a Government servant—Mr. Buckland himself for example—had been nominated by the Commissioners instead of an outsider, would the Government stop his pay? or supposing that the Commissioners had refused to return a member, would not the Government pay its third nominee, whether or no he happened to be its own servant? Was Mr. Jones' pay stopped last year when he was specially deputed to enquire into the condition of the sewers, and was relieved of his other duties? If it was not, we fail to see why there should be any objection regarding Mr. Cotton's pay now. But of course party spirit did not then run so high as it does now.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—SURPASSINGLY EFFICACIOUS AS A RESTORATIVE MEDICINE AND FOOD.—Dr. Whitmore, Medical Officer of Health, St. Marylebone, writes:—"My own somewhat lengthened experience as a Medical Practitioner enables me with confidence to recommend Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, as being more uniform in quality, more certain in its effects, more palatable, and infinitely less likely to disagree with the stomach than the Pale Oil. The practice which often prevails of mixing certain ingredients with Cod Liver Oil, to render it agreeable to the taste, is highly objectionable, for we have it on the authority of Dr. de Jongh himself, that anything which sophisticates it, takes largely from its therapeutic value. If I were asked for an explanation of the marked success which for so many years has attended the administration of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, I should say that it is owing to its extraordinary medicinal, dietetic, and regiminal properties, and which are found to exist in no other medicine that I am acquainted with in such uniform combination." Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co,. 210, High Holborn, London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTION	Rs.	A.	P.
M. L. Macnaghten Esq., Nischindpore	5	8	0
President Reading Club, Cooch Behar	13	4	0
T. Pattaviram Pellay Esq., Trichinopoly	13	4	0
Kumar Hurpersad Singh, Monghyr	13	4	0
Babu Ramsaran Das, Commercial Bank, Oudh	6	0	0
„ Kally Nath Dhur, Nurrail	13	4	0
„ Banko Behary Pal, Ranaghat	6	4	0
„ Janoky Nath Dutt, Chittagong	6	10	0
„ Manick Chunder Baroh, Gowhatty	13	4	0
„ Dwarkanath Sen, Madaripore	6	10	0
„ Joy Gopal Bannerjee, Mirzapore	6	10	0
„ Hurry Mohan Dey, Gya	3	5	0
„ Bepin Behary Sen, Dinagepore	3	5	0
„ Ram Chunder Nayak, Banares	13	4	0
„ Bhoobon Mohan Raha, Beerbhoom	20	0	0
„ Jogendra Nath Chatterjee, Kola	6	10	0
„ Preonath Dutt, Durbhanga	4	0	0
„ Ramdhone Sasmul, Contai	5	0	0
„ Lal Behary Dey, Chinsurah	6	0	0
„ Aghore Nath Ghose, Tipperah	13	4	0
„ Kadar Nath Biswas, Pooree	6	10	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*3rd September* 1884.

General—21st August—Mr C R Marriott, C S reported his departure from India, on furlough, on 5th inst.

25th August—Mahomed Azhar, Sub-Depy Colr, Madaripore, Furreedpore, leave for three months, from 25th inst, or subsequent date.

Baboo Nani Lal Mookerjee, Tempy Sub-Depy Colr of the Rajshahye Divn, is posted to Rungpore.

Baboo Udai Chand Palit, Offg Sub-Depy Colr, Palamow, Lohardugga, is vested with powers of a Colr under sec 19, Act II (B C) of 1880 in that Sub-divin, from 1st inst.

26th Augt—Mr T E Coxhead, C S, reported his departure from India, on special leave, on 12th inst.

Baboo Ashootosh Gupta, Persl Asst to the Comr of Chittagong, leave for three months, from date he availed himself of it.

Baboo Radhika Lal Shome, Tempy Sub-Depy Colr Rajshahye Divn, is posted to Darjeeling.

27th Augt—Moulvie Majibar Rahman is apptd temply a Sub-Depy Colr, fourth grade, vice Baboo Ishree Pershad, dcd.

Baboo Khetter Mohun Mitter, Offg. Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Dacca, leave for three months, in extension of leave granted 20th June last.

28th Augt—Baboo Hem Chunder Mitter, Tempy Sub-Depy Colr, Bongong, Jessore, leave for nine months, in extension of leave granted him on 8th December, 1883.

Baboo Madhav Lal is apptd temply Sub-Depy Colr for employment on land registration work, in the dist of Patna, during the absence, on deputn, of Moulvie Mahomed Ghowi.

Baboo Madhav Lal, Tempy Sub-Depy Colr on land registration work in Patna, temply to be a Sub-Depy Colr, and is posted to Tajpore, in Durbhunga, during absence of Moulvie Anwar Ahmed.

1st Sept,—The services of the Hon'ble H J Reynolds, Board of Revenue are placed temply at the disposal of the Govt. of India, in the Dept of Revenue and Agriculture.

Mr F B Peacock, Secy to the Govt of Bengal, in the Judicial, Political, and Apptmt Depts, is apptd to act as Member of Board of Revenue, during absence, on deputation, of the Hon'ble H J Reynolds.

Mr J W Edgar, C S I, is apptd to act as Secy to the Govt of Bengal, in the Judicial, Political, and Apptmt Dept, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr F B Peacock.

Mr F H B Skrine, Jt Magte and Colr, Howrah, leave for twenty days from 4th inst.

Mr J C Veasey, Offg Magte and Colr, Moorshedabad, is apptd to be a Magte and Colr of third grade, from 29th ult vice Mr T E Coxhead.

Mr Veasey will continue to act in the second grade of Magtes and Colrs.

Mr F H B Skrine, Temply Jt-Magte and Deputy Colr, first grade, is confirmed in that grade, from 29th ult, vice Mr J C Veasey.

Mr A W Paul is promtd temply to first grade, of Jt Magtes and Depy Colrs, from 29th ultimo, vice Mr F H B Skrine. Mr. Paul will continue to act as Insptr-Genl of Registration.

Mr A C Tute, Tempy Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, second grade, is confirmed in that grade, from 29th ult, vice Mr F H B Skrine. Mr Tute will continue to act as Magte and Colr of Dinagepore,

Mr J K Wight is apptd temply to be a Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, second grade, from 29 ult vice Mr. A C Tute. Mr. Wight holding an apptmt in Assam, is seconded in the grade.

Mr C R Marindin is apptd temply to be Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, second grade, from 29th ult, vice Mr. J K Wight.

Mr A D Clay, Depy Comr, Manbhoom, is appointed to act as Comr, Chota Nagpore Divn, during absence of Mr J F K Hewitt.

Mr A W Mackie, Offg Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, Loharduga, is apptd to act as Depy Colr of Manbhoom, during absence on deputn of Mr A L Clay.

2nd Septr—The orders of 2nd July, apptg the Hon'ble H J Reynolds to be a Member of the Board of Revenue, vice Mr H L Dampier, C I E, resigned, and other apptmts in that chain, will take effect from 27th, and not from 29th July.

Police—25th August—The order of 10th July, granting three months privilege leave to Col H E Waller, Dist Supdt of Police, Durbhunga is cancelled.

30th Augt—Mr. H N Hallis is apptd to act as Dist Supdt of Police Burdwan, during absence on leave of Mr J Masters. This cancels order of 26th ult, apptg Mr T C Orr to act as Dist Supdt of Police, Burdwan.

Mr T C Orr, Asst Supdt of Police, is posted to Dinagepore.

Registration—22nd August—Baboo Chundra Narain Gupta Depy Magte and Depy Colr, is apptd to be also Sub-Regtr of Doomka, Sonthal Pergunnahs, from 12th May, vice Mr. F Grant, transfd.

Education—28th Augt—Mr. W Billing to be Head Master of the Anglo-Persian Dept of the Calcutta Madrassa, from 21st January last, vice Mr G Lorimer.

30th Augt—The following gentlemen are appointed to be members of the Dist School Committee of Maldah:—Asst Surg Gobind Chunder Chatterjee. vice Asst Surg Debendro Natl. Roy, transfd; Baboo Kali Das Chatterjee Govt pleader, vice Babu Mohendro Nath Banerjee, who has left the dist; Babu Golak Chunder Chuckerbutty, Head Master, Maldah Zillah School, vice Baboo Chunder Nath Bhuttacharjee, transfd, Baboo Hari Nath Palit, B L Pleader; and Baboo Brojo Lal Chatterjee, Inspr of Police.

Opium—26th Augt—Surg Maj H Whitwell to act as Principal Asst to the Opium Agent, Behar, during absence of Surg Maj T W Sheppard.

Medical—25th Augt—Asst Surg Radha Raman Ghose is apptd to have Sub-medl charge of the Sub-divn of, and the addnl charge of the charitable dispensary at, Raneegunge, in Burdwan.

Asst Surg Abhaya Kumar Sen, in medl charge of Cox's Bazar sub-divn, in Chittagong, leave for three months from 16th Septr, or subsequent date.

Asst Surg Nilratan Adhicary, a Supernry at Mozufferpore, to have medl charge of the Cox's Bazar sub-divn in Chittagong, during absence, on leave, of Asst Surg Abhaya Cumar Sen.

26th Augt—Mr. J Davis is apptd to be Apothy to the Medl College Hospital, Calcutta, from 9th inst. vice Mr E P Clement.

Advertisements.

NOTICE is hereby given that the currency Office, Public Debt Office, Government Savings Bank and the Government account at the Bank of Bengal will be closed from 24th September to 5th October both days inclusive, except for Council bills and interest drafts which will be paid on the days when the Bank of Bengal is open for business.

Form E.
ASSESSOR'S DEPARTMENT.

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 112, 114, 115 AND 116 OF ACT IV. (B. C.) OF 1876.

NOTICE is hereby given that the measurements and valuations or assessments of the portions of the Town, noted in the margin, have been completed and that the books containing the said measurement, and valuations or assessments can be inspected on any day (Sundays and holidays excepted) at the Office of the Commissioners, No. 4 Municipal Office Street, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 4 P. M.

Bounded on North by Meerbohor Ghat Street, Cotton Street and Machooa Bazar Road, East by College Street, South by Bow Bazar Street, Lall Bazar, North side Dalhousie Square, North side, Fairlie Place, & West by River Hooghly.

Any person, desiring to appeal against the said measurements and valuations or assessments, must, within fifteen days from this date, deliver at the Office of the Commissioners a notice in writing, stating the grounds of appeal, and also informing the Commissioners whether he intends to appeal under Clause *a* or *b* of Section 114 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1876.

The Commissioners will proceed to hear the appeals under Clause *a* of Section 114, on 22nd September 1884.

But no such appeal will be heard by the Commissioners unless the provisions of Section 115 of the said Act have previously been complied with, and unless the appeal is preferred by the person who, at the time the appeal is made, shall be recorded in the Assessment Books, as the owner of the house or land to which the appeal refers, or by the occupier thereof, or by the agent or either of them.

R. TURNBULL,
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† Jagree in coopahs ...	
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Items marked thus * will only be carried at the special rates quoted when tendered in consignments of 50 maunds and upwards. The Northern Bengal State Railway minimum for special class goods will remain as at present.

† At owner's risk.

Attention is also invited to the fact that the Trally Service between Dharllaghat and Jatrapur has been done away with, and a Train Service substituted.

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বিজ্ঞাপন—প্রতি পঙ্‌ক্তি অর্দ্ধ আনা মাত্র।

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বিলাতের পত্র লেখক—শ্রীআশুতোষ চৌধুরী, B.A. with Honors, Cam. Univ. দ্বিজেন্দ্রলাল রায় M.A.

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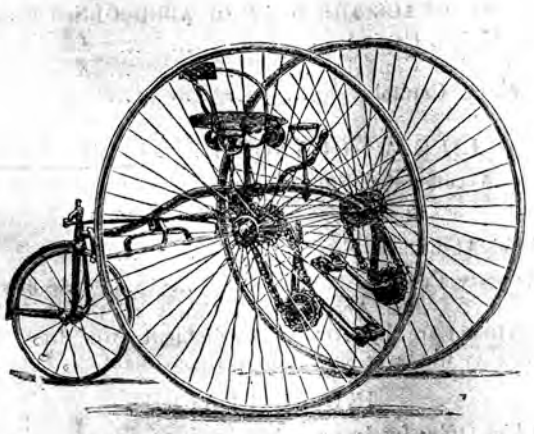

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